Please enter the following amendments to the Abstract:

Amendments to the Abstract:

Methods and apparatus for representing game ~~Game~~ arrangements by ~~are reduced to~~ a single number, typically an integer, are described. ~~General procedures, applying~~ These game arrangements can be applied to most any game including essentially all games played on gaming machines. ~~, convert between symbolic~~ Conversions can be made between symbolic representations of game arrangements and numeric representations of game arrangements. These conversions can be made using ~~The procedures utilize~~ "ordering factors" such as game symbols and positions of such game symbols. ~~Examples of symbols include a "Queen of Hearts" in a card game, a keno token, a cherry symbol on slot reel symbol, a checker, etc. Examples of positions include second slot reel payline 3, 5th card in a poker hand, 38th position on a keno board, 21st position on a checkerboard, etc.~~